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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q93419

Francois LE MANER

Appln. No.: 10/571,056

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Confirmation No.: 9070

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: March 7, 2006

For: FLUID PRODUCT DISTRIBUTOR DEVICE

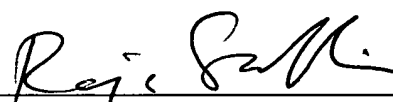
**SUBMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT (IPER)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

For the Examiner's convenience, enclosed herewith is a copy of the English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPER). It is noted that the reference cited in the International Search Report was previously submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with an Information Disclosure Statement on March 7, 2006, and is therefore not enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 24, 2006

Expéditeur : le BUREAU INTERNATIONAL

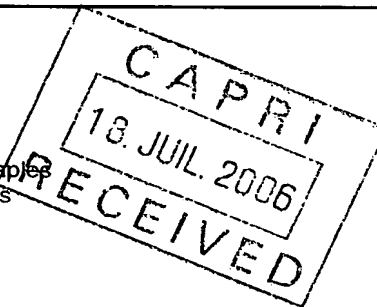
PCT

NOTIFICATION DE TRANSMISSION DE COPIES
DE LA TRADUCTION DU RAPPORT D'EXAMEN
PRELIMINAIRE INTERNATIONAL
SUR LA BREVETABILITE (CHAPITRE I OU CHAPITRE II
DU TRAITE DE COOPERATION EN MATIERE DE BREVETS)

(règles 44bis.3.c) et 72.2 du PCT)

Destinataire :

CAPRI
33, rue de Naples
F-75008 Paris
FRANCE



Date d'expédition (jour/mois/année) 13 juillet 2006 (13.07.2006)	
Référence du dossier du déposant ou du mandataire VALS 843 B PCT	NOTIFICATION IMPORTANTE
Demande internationale n° PCT/FR2004/002233	Date du dépôt international (jour/mois/année) 02 septembre 2004 (02.09.2004)
Déposant VALOIS SAS etc	

1. Transmission de la traduction au déposant.



Le Bureau international transmet ci-joint copie de la traduction en langue anglaise du rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre I).



Le Bureau international transmet ci-joint copie de la traduction en langue anglaise du rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre II).

2. Transmission d'une copie de la traduction aux offices désignés ou élus.

Le Bureau international notifie au déposant qu'une copie de cette traduction a été transmise aux offices désignés ou élus suivants qui exigent la traduction en question:

Aucun

Les offices désignés ou élus suivants ayant renoncé à l'exigence selon laquelle la transmission doit être effectuée à cette date recevront une copie de cette traduction du Bureau international seulement à leur demande:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Rappel concernant la traduction dans la ou l'une des langues officielles de l'office ou des offices élus.

Il est rappelé au déposant que, lorsqu'une traduction de la demande internationale doit être remise à un office élu, cette traduction doit comporter la traduction de toute annexe du rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre II).

Il appartient au déposant d'établir la traduction en question et de la remettre directement à chaque office élu intéressé dans le délai applicable (règle 74.1). Voir le volume II du Guide du déposant du PCT pour de plus amples renseignements.

Bureau international de l'OMPI 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Genève 20, Suisse	Fonctionnaire autorisé Beate Giffo-Schmitt
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TRAITÉ DE COOPÉRATION EN MATIÈRE DE BREVETS

PCT

RAPPORT PRÉLIMINAIRE INTERNATIONAL SUR LA BREVETABILITÉ (chapitre I du Traité de coopération en matière de brevets)

(règle 44bis du PCT)

Référence du dossier du déposant ou du mandataire VALS 843 B PCT	POUR SUITE À DONNER Voir le point 4 ci-dessous	
Demande internationale no. PCT/FR2004/002233	Date du dépôt international (jour/mois/année) 02 September 2004 (02.09.2004)	Date de priorité (jour/mois/année) 10 September 2003 (10.09.2003)
Classification internationale des brevets (8 ^e édition, sauf indication d'une #dition ant#rieure) Voir les informations pertinentes dans le formulaire PCT/ISA/237		
Déposant VALOIS SAS		

1. Le présent rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre I) est établi par le Bureau international au nom de l'administration chargée de la recherche internationale selon la règle 44bis.1.a).

2. Ce RAPPORT comprend un total de 5 feuilles, y compris la présente feuille de couverture.

Dans les feuilles jointes, toute référence à l'opinion écrite de l'administration chargée de la recherche internationale doit être entendue, à la place, comme une référence au rapport préliminaire international sur la brevetabilité (chapitre I).

3. Le présent rapport contient des indications relatives aux points suivants :

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° I | Base de l'opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° II | Priorité |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° III | Absence de formulation d'opinion quant à la nouveauté, l'activité inventive et la possibilité d'application industrielle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° IV | Absence d'unité de l'invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° V | Déclaration motivée selon l'article 35.2) quant à la nouveauté, l'activité inventive et la possibilité d'application industrielle; citations et explications à l'appui de cette déclaration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° VI | Certains documents cités |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° VII | Certaines irrégularités relevées dans la demande internationale |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cadre n° VIII | Certaines observations relatives à la demande internationale |

4. Le Bureau international communiquera le présent rapport aux offices désignés conformément aux règles 44bis.3.c) et 93bis.1 mais pas avant l'expiration du délai de 30 mois à compter de la date de priorité (règle 44bis.2), sauf si le déposant a présenté une requête expresse à cet égard en vertu de l'article 23.2).

Bureau international de l'OMPI 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland no de télécopieur +41 22 338 82 70	Date d'établissement du présent rapport 03 July 2006 (03.07.2006)
	Fonctionnaire autorisé Beate Giffo-Schmitt e-mail: pt03@wipo.int

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

Translation

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To:

Date of mailing **See form PCT/ISA/210**
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
VALS 843 B PCT

FOR FURTHER ACTION
See paragraph 2 below

International application No. PCT/FR2004/002233	International filing date (day/month/year) 02.09.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 10.09.2003
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International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC
B05B11/00

Applicant
VALOIS SAS

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability: citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/FR2004/002233

Box No. 1 Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language
_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/FR2004/002233

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability:
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-15</u>	YES
	Claims	_____	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

- 1 Reference is made to the following document in the present notification:
D1: US 5 176 296 A (PENNANEAC H HERVE ET AL) 5
January 1993 (1993-01-05)

- 2 Document D1, which is considered to represent the most relevant prior art, describes a fluid product distributor pump comprising a pump body, a pump chamber provided with an inlet valve and with an outlet valve, and a piston which slides inside the said pump body in order to distribute the product contained in the pump chamber, the said outlet valve comprising a valve element which cooperates with a valve seat, the subject matter of independent claim 1 differing therefrom in that: the said outlet valve comprises deformable sealing means provided between the said valve seat and the said valve element, the said sealing means being deformed elastically in the closed position of the said outlet valve in order to provide improved sealing.

2.1 The subject matter of claim 1 is therefore novel (PCT Article 33(2)). The problem to be solved by the

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/FR2004/002233

Box No. V

Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement

present invention can be considered to be that which follows:

the aim of the invention is to provide a fluid product distributor pump which provides perfect sealing when the outlet valve of the pump chamber is in the closed position.

2.2 The solution to this problem, as proposed in claim 1 of the present application, is considered to involve an inventive step (PCT Article (33)). The invention describes a fluid product distributor pump which meets the aforementioned requirements in an optimum manner without reproducing the disadvantages of the prior art pumps.

2.3 Claims 2-15 are dependent on claim 1 and thus also comply, as such, with the requirements of novelty and inventive step of the PCT.